

Message Text

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45

ACTION SS-30

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R 071240Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6031

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USUN NEW YORK 989

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 6429

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, CB

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH PRIME MINISTER: DEFENSE OF THE KHMER
SEAT AT THE UNGA

1. DURING MY CALL ON PRIME MINISTER ON MAY 7, I INQUIRED WHETHER HE WAS ABLE TO PUSH HIS COUNTRY'S CASE ON KHMER REPRESENTATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DURING HIS VISIT TO AUSTRIA (STATE 092777). PRIME MINISTER REPLIED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT WITH AUSTRIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS KIRCHSECLAEGER WHO WILL MOST LIKELY SUCCEED THE LATE FRANZ JONAS AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC. ACCORDING TO LONG BORET, KIRCHSCHLAEGER CLAIMED THAT HE WOULD INSTRUCT AUSTRAIN DELEGATION TO SUPPORT GKR IN UNGA. IF THIS IS SO, IT WOULD BE WELCOMED SWITCH FROM ABSTENTION.

2. LONG BORET ALSO HAD A LONG CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM WHILE TRAVELING TOGETHER IN THE SAME PLANE FROM ZURICH TO VIENNA. WHILE UN SECRETARY GENERAL IS NOT DIRECTLY CONCERNED, LONG BORET AVAILED HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE WALDHEIM AN ACCURATE PICTURE OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION IN KHMER REPUBLIC. WALDHEIM SAID THAT
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MUCH WILL DEPEND ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH OTHER SOUTHEAST

ASIAN COUNTRIES WILL ACTIVELY PUSH THE GKR POSITION IN THE UNGA NEXT FALL.

3. LONG BORET ALSO EXPLAINED GKR'S POSITION TO COSTA RICA VICE PRESIDENT AND TO PRESIDENT OF TURKISH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHO ATTENDED THE JONAS FUNERAL.

4. I THEN MENTIONED TO THE PRIME MINISTER WHAT APPEARED TO US TO BE A NEED FOR A RESIDENT KHMER PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IN NEWYORK. DRAWING ON USUN 1595 I ASKED WHAT HIS PLANS WERE TO DESIGNATE AN EFFECTIVE RESIDENT PERMREP WHO WOULD BE ABLE TO WORK IN ENGLISH WITH ASIAN ALLIES AND WHO COULD LOBBY WITH OTHER DELEGATES. SINCE I HAD KNOWN AMBASSADOR NONG KIMNY WHEN HE WAS VICE DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN WASHINGTON IN THE 1960S, I INQUIRED WHETHER NONG KIMNY COULD NOT BE RELIEVED FROM HIS PRESENT ASSIGNMENT IN KUALA LUMPUR TO TAKE ON THIS MORE IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY. LONG BORET REPLIED THAT NONG KIMNY WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT CHOICE BUT HE DOUBTED THAT HE WOULD ACCEPT IT BECAUSE OF AGE. HE AGREED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO GET A RESIDENT KHMER PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IN NEW YORK AND WOULD KEEP ME INFORMED ON SELECTION. I STRESSED NEED TO GET AMBASSADOR TO NEW YORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT HE HAS TIME TO MEET HIS COLLEAGUES IF HE IS TO BE FULLY EFFECTIVE IN NEXT FALL'S BATTLE FOR THE RETENTION OF THE KHMER SEAT. I PLAN TO FOLLOW UP ON THIS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER NEXT WEEK.
DEAN

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